

The method includes the steps of measuring the twist, crown and camber of the at least one slider. A first group of twist scribes may be formed on the back surface. A first group of crown and camber scribes are formed on the back surface. The twist, crown and camber of the slider are measured and compared to the final target values. Additional twist scribes may be formed if the final target value for twist is not reached or if the final target value is exceeded. Additional crown and camber scribes may be formed if the final target values for crown and camber are not obtained. FIGS. 5A and 5B show how scribe lines appearing in opposite corners can provide roll angle ("twist") in the positive or negative direction, as in the present invention, but Chang et al. fails to disclose the use of a laser to make the scribe lines.

Khlif et al. discloses an apparatus and method for controlling twist curvature of a disc head slider, where the slider has a bearing surface, a back surface, which is opposite to the bearing surface, a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis. The apparatus obtains a measure of the twist curvature of the bearing surface and selectively alters material stresses in a working surface of the slider. The material stresses are altered asymmetrically with respect to the longitudinal axis and the transverse axis based on the measure of the twist curvature to induce a change in the twist curvature. Column 6, lines 29-42 and FIG. 4 disclose applying a laser beam to form a "melt pattern" asymmetrical to longitudinal and transverse axes X and Y.

Tomohisa et al. and Kojima et al. have been cited for teaching a "laser beam polarized in XY directions with a galvano scanner mirror and [which] is condensed with a long focal length lens," as recited in claim 4.

Applicants respectfully disagree. Tomohisa et al. discloses no more than a laser scanning beam  $B_p$  being "brought to a galvano mirror 13 to be polarized," and Kojima et al. discloses no more than the use of a condenser lens having a long focal length.

None of the cited references teaches, mentions or suggests that the laser beam is polarized in both X and Y directions, as recited in claim 4 of the instant application.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim 4 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over AAPA in view of Chang et al., in view of Khlif et al., in view of U.S. Patent 6,984,802 to Kuroiwa et al. (hereinafter "Kuroiwa et al.").

Kuroiwa et al. discloses a laser material processing apparatus for processing a workpiece (22) in such a way as to separate one laser light (26) into two laser beams (26a, 26b) via first polarizer (25), one laser beam being passed via the mirrors (24), the other laser beam being scanned biaxially by a first galvano scanner (29), and conduct two laser beams (26a, 26b) to a second polarizer (27) for scanning via a second galvano scanner (30), wherein an optical path is constituted such that the laser beam (26b) transmitted through the first polarizer (25) is reflected by the second polarizer (27), and the laser beam (26a) reflected by the first polarizer (25) is transmitted through the second polarizer (27).

Kuroiwa et al., like the other cited references, fails to teach, mention or suggest that the laser beam is polarized in both X and Y directions, as recited in claim 4 of the instant application.

Thus, the 35 U.S.C §103(a) rejection should be withdrawn.

In view of the remarks above, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105.

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Respectfully submitted,

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